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a pruning away of generalizations based on personal taste, a fuller study of the poet's blank verse, and certainly a rewriting that would insure clearness and precision of style, — these things would render the thesis more worthy of the subject which the author has undertaken to treat.

MARTIN W. SAMPSON.

UNIVERSITY OF INDIANA.

Maldon and Brunnanburh. Edited by Charles Langley Crow, Ph.D. Ginn & Co.: Boston and London, 1897. Pp. xxxvii, 47.

THIS little book is so good that one wishes it were better. There is an Introduction, subdivided into Historical Outline, Manuscripts, Other Early Accounts of the Battles, Prosody, Testimonies, and List of Syllables marked Long in the Mss.; a Bibliography; the text of *Maldon*, followed by that of *Brunnanburh*; Notes; and a Glossary.

The text and glossary are the most satisfactory parts of the book, though the editor might have added to his variants had he known Plummer's later edition of the *Chronicle* (1892), as well as the slighter one of 1889.

The historical outline is too meagre, and not sufficiently clear. The account of the manuscripts, though brief, contains all that is needful except references to fuller sources of information. The other early accounts of the battles should have contained the extract from the Egil's Saga, to which we are referred. The testimonies, though acceptable, occupy too great a relative space. The list of long syllables, if it was to be given at all, should have been dismissed to an appendix.

The bibliography is full, and is one of the best divisions of the work, though we miss Plummer's later edition of the *Chronicle*, as noted above, and are not prepared for this statement: 'Many of the editions have, however, no value and are consequently not mentioned. Works bearing solely on the mutual relationship, age, etc., of the Mss. are omitted.' Then, too, there is considerable variety in the references to books. Some are cited by the full title, others by the briefest; in some the name of the author precedes, and in others follows, the title; some have page references, others not; in one place occurs *Scôpas*, in another *Scopas*, etc., etc.

The notes are scanty and, indeed, insufficient.

Here and there throughout the volume are procedures that one is tempted to criticize. Thus *Maldon* is printed before *Brunnanburh*, reversing the historical order. The order of the texts is observed in the comments of the Introduction under Manuscripts, Prosody, Testimonies, and List of Syllables, but not under Historical Outline, nor Other Early Accounts. Professor Crow writes *Brunnanburh*, 'for metrical reasons'; but the true spelling is almost certainly *Brūnanburh*, with the first vowel long.

The most serious omission is that of any attempt at literary appreciation; from this the editor was not dispensed by his inclusion of testimonies.

The typography, though clear, is not especially attractive.

The book is dedicated to Professor James A. Harrison.

YALE UNIVERSITY.

ALBERT S. COOK.

Outline Guide to the Study of English Lyric Poetry. By Frederic Ives Carpenter. University of Chicago: 1897. Pp. iv, 54.

DR. CARPENTER had already made a useful *Outline Guide to the Study of Spenser* (Chicago, 1894). The new one is constructed upon somewhat similar lines, and will be very serviceable to students of the subject. The principal divisions are: (1) Nature and Definition of the Lyric (with general bibliography); (2) Principal Sources of English Lyric Poetry; (3) History of the English Lyric (by far the longest division); (4) Leading Lyric Kinds and Types; (5) The Development of Lyric Form; (6) Lyrics for Memorizing; (7) Miscellaneous Studies.

One can only approve Dr. Carpenter's citation of works beyond the pale of English literature — such books as Werner's *Lyrik und Lyriker*, Croiset's *La Poésie de Pindare*, Pollard's *Odes from the Greek Dramatists*, etc. On the other hand, the author has a tendency to group together, in a somewhat uncritical fashion, books of the most diverse merit, including such as are nearly worthless. Owing to this fact, a student who might chance to enter upon a serious study of the subject in ignorance of the character of the works cited, would run the risk of experiencing severe disappointment when he came to consult certain of those to which his guide